



SOCIOLOGY CURRICULUM INTENT

HGCSC Mission	Exceptional education for every child, every day
Priority	Provide a broad and balanced curriculum that challenges everyone

SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT INTENT

In sociology we will enable students to understand what society is and the roles of individuals and organisations within this. We will equip students with a sense of social justice, empathy and personal responsibility allowing them to make informed choices and live as empowered citizens.

CURRICULUM AIMS

Building on cross curricular skills and knowledge from other KS3, subjects (such as geography, history and maths), students will become engaged with the world around them and become able to critically analyse this. They will conduct in-depth investigations into the work of key sociologists and apply this to current social issues. Students' character will be developed through links with higher education institutions and through social action (for example through the Food Bank promotion).

2 YEAR OVERVIEW KEY STAGE 4 ONLY

Pupils will begin the sociology course by learning what sociology is, they will enquire into how society works and learn about a variety of key sociological theories, having the chance to discuss and debate topics such as why there is conflict in society and how our ideas and values are shaped by the society in which we live. Pupils will learn about sociological research and will know how sociologists find out about the world.

Once they have these key sociological skills and knowledge, pupils will study 4 topics: families, education, crime and deviance and social stratification. They will learn how we are influenced by these social structures and will again debate how and why these benefit individuals. Pupils regularly analyse a variety of relevant news stories, through which they gain skills of critical thinking and an understanding of how the media affects us. Pupils will learn 24 key sociological studies, being able to describe the findings of each study as well as criticisms of these. Through this, pupils gain comprehension and analytical skills useful to them in sociology as well as other subjects such as English and history.

At the end of the course, pupils are examined through two written exams which test their knowledge and understanding of the issues and topics learned.

SKILLS

- To be able to describe, evaluate, analyse and assess sociological issues.
- To understand that there are a range of perspectives on sociological issues and to develop their own points of views through debate and collaborative working.
- To be able to apply knowledge of sociological perspectives to real life issues.
- To understand the importance of sociological research and to be able to carry this out independently.

KNOWLEDGE

- Pupils will know basic sociological perspectives on how society works.
- Pupils will know about a range of sociological issues and different sociological perspectives about these.
- Pupils will know about a variety of government policies relating to sociological issues.
- Pupils will know the content of key sociological studies and vocabulary specific to these.

RAISING ASPIRATIONS

Pupils are taught about a range of careers linked to sociology, for example, medicine, law and teaching. Teachers discuss different career options that are linked to lesson content and encourage pupils to consider all options for their futures, valuing different career paths such as apprenticeships and university. Lessons often include reading and analysing a variety of relevant news stories from different sources, widening pupils' vocabulary and encouraging them to achieve the best they possibly can.